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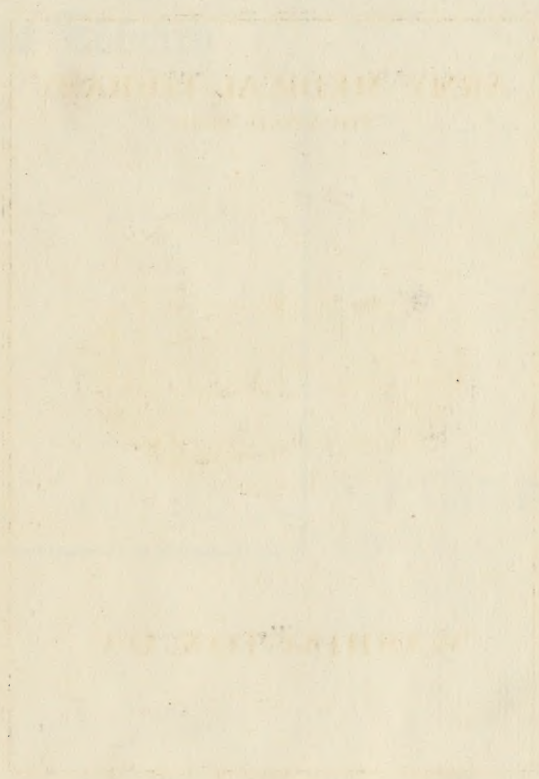
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**BIBLIOGRAPHY
OF DOCTOR
THOMAS EDWARD PICKETT
OF MAYSVILLE,
KENTUCKY**



**PUBLISHED BY
THE KENTUCKY STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JANUARY, 1914
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8TH SERIES**

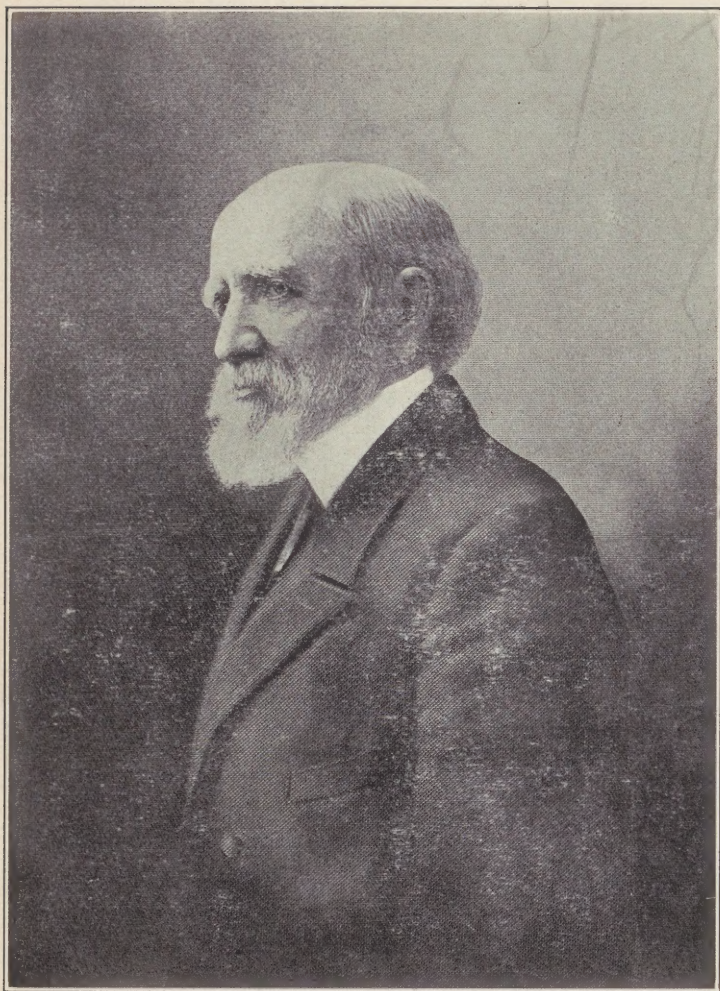
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1914



DR. THOMAS EDWARD PICKETT

DR. THOMAS EDWARD PICKETT

DIED at his home in Maysville, September 3, 1913.
Dr. Thomas Edward Pickett.

It is in the sense of a personal loss to this Society that we record the death of this valued friend. He was one of the first of the learned and eminent men of the State to be interested and helpful in the promotion and success of the Society and the Register, its magazine. His letters, his clippings and his contributions were among the best we ever received. We shall miss him, as a contributor, as an adviser, and as a friend and as a distinguished member of this Society.

We publish as our 8th series this Brochure with bibliography of his life and services, as a scientist, author, physician and eminent citizen of Maysville, Ky.

It becomes the sad duty of the editor of the Register to gather a few of the many admirable sketches of this lately deceased eminent Kentuckian, of Maysville, Ky., in this permanent form, that the world may see we knew him here.

It has become a reproach to Kentucky that so many of her talented men must go East or to Europe for recognition of their ability and attainments that reflect credit and honor upon the State that such a man was born on her soil. Men of

letters, men of erudition, and men of science, the gifted and great in those lines of talent that make men and women, it seems that their work, that should be appreciated and appropriated at home for recognition and usefulness must look to the East for proper tribute and reward. Dr. Pickett's distinction as a writer won him fame in the East and in Europe, where his special lines of talent are demanded and appreciated in the intelligent circles of science and learning. It is an especial pleasure to learn from the following notices of his death, that in life he enjoyed a part of the recognition of his erudition and his eminent services as a scientific physician in his home city. All honor to the memory of such an author, friend and physician. We take from the January Register, 1914, the following, introduction to this series:

Of Dr. Thomas E. Pickett it is said, he is one of the few eminent men of America who has been honored abroad by being made a member of the "Royal Society of Arts," in England in recognition of his wonderful book---"The Quest for a Lost Race." His erudition and elegance as a writer, was appreciated abroad as well as at home. He was a member of the British Association for the advancement of Science, also a member of the American Academy of Medicine, the National Geographical Society, and other such societies, as well as a member of the National Medical Society. He was a member of the State Historical Society, and a contributor to its magazine, The Register.

A more extended notice of this famous Kentuckian and beloved citizen of Maysville, Ky., will be given in our Series 8th, a Brochure, with a handsome picture of Dr. Pickett whose recent death was so widely deplored in and out of the State he adorned as a citizen, and famous writer and physician.

MRS. JENNIE C. MORTON.

The following from the Maysville papers:

DR. PICKETT DEAD

Dr. Thomas Edward Pickett, eminent author and physician and beloved citizen, closed his eyes in Eternal sleep yesterday afternoon at 4:45 o'clock. He had been in a stupor for 36 hours preceding his death and the end came befitting his noble and serene career, sweetly and peacefully. a flicker of the pulse, a last feeble throb of the heart and his immortal soul joined his father's in the mansions of the blessed.

It is difficult to write of Dr. Pickett without glowing and sincere praise and enthusiasm. A man of giant intellect he was as brave as a lion and was also as gentle as a dove. Ripe scholar and deep student of human life he had a close view of the finite and the INFINITE. Witty? His was of the rapier order, keen appropos cutting and masterly. That he was at the head of the medical profession and in literature his record and writings profusely attest.

Dr. Pickett was born on his father's farm four miles West of Maysville on January 11th, 1841, and was a son of Thomas J. Pickett and Margaret Madison (Campbell) Pickett, the former a native of Mason County and the latter born in Fayette County and both being representatives of sterling pioneer families of Kentucky. His father was a man of prominence and influence in Mason County and in the early day was a shipper of farm products to New Orleans. He represented Mason County in the Legislature. Dr. Pickett's grandfather, John Pickett, was born in Fauquier County, Virginia and first came to Kentucky in 1789. The Pickett family are of staunch English stock as the pages of the last 300 years of history fully attest.

Dr. Pickett was the last of nine children. He was edu-

cated in the Maysville schools, finishing in the famous Rand and Richeson Seminary here, the same school at which Gen. U. S. Grant was a student. In 1865 the Doctor was graduated in medicine from the University of Pennsylvania from which he received his M. D. degree and all his professional life he has practiced his profession in Maysville, where by his humane acts and the gentle arts of his profession he has endeared himself to thousands of people, the high and the lowly.

Dr. Pickett was the first man to introduce into the United States the system of treatment of fractures by massage and mobilization. The Cincinnati Lancet-Clinic of 1903 contained a long notice of Dr. Pickett on this subject.

Dr. Pickett has been a popular and successful practitioner of medicine in Mason County since the close of the Civil War. But his services to the community have not been on exclusively professional lines. From the date of the first railway agitation in which he volunteered to report the speeches of James Barbour, Esq., and Judge Richard H. Stanton (reports which were widely distributed) he has helped in various ways to create public sentiment in favor of "local improvement." His name has been connected with every enterprise from the "fifties" down. Many years ago James Wormaid made him one of the Trustees of his Library fund, \$20,000. He was the last one of the original appointees. In later days he was made a Trustee and Director of the Wilson Hospital (Hayswood). In succession he has been a member of the City Council, Chairman of the Board of Health, City Physician, member of the School Board, and representative of the State in the Directory of the Maysville and Lexington Turnpike Road, a famous thoroughfare. While in the City Council he was associated with the late R. A. Cochran and B. A. Wallingford, Sr., in a successful effort to "refund" the city debt, an epoch in our financial administration which is worthy of note.

Dr. Pickett was a member of the "Advisory Committee" which gave a helping hand to the City Council in making the contract for our present water works. He also served in a similar capacity with the present School Board in the erection of the new Public School buildings.

Dr. Pickett has been a prolific writer, and has published books on a variety of subjects. "The Quest for a Lost Race," which has attracted a great deal of attention, and has been well characterized as "a genealogy of the State," was published by him as a member of the Filson Club (Louisville, Ky.)

Dr. Pickett was made a member of the Royal Society of Arts of England in appreciation of his book "The Quest For a Lost Race," his election bearing date of June 29th, 1910.

Dr. Pickett was a life member of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, of the American Academy of Medicine, of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, of the National Geographical Association (Boston), and other associations of a historic and scientific character.

He was a member of the "National Association of the United States Examining Surgeons" and a president of the local Board of Examining Surgeons, which was organized at this place in 1884. His membership dates from that time.

It may give interest to this sketch to add that Dr. Pickett served as a surgical assistant in the famous Peninsular Campaign of 1864, and had some active military experience in local movements in the early "sixties" under Colonels Marshall and Harris.

When a young man he was united in marriage to Miss Abbie Gray, who died about thirty-three years ago. He is survived by two daughters: Mrs. Edward C. McDowell, of Ontario, Canada, and Mrs. Geo. T. Barbour, of this city, with whom the Doctor lived.

Noble gentleman farewell; you will be missed from the daily walks of this most mysterious human life.

After Life's fitful fever, he sleeps well.

DR. PICKETT'S FUNERAL

The funeral services over the remains of Dr. Thomas E. Pickett will be conducted at his late home Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock, by Dr. John Barbour, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church. He was a baptised child in this church.

Friends will kindly omit flowers.

THOMAS EDWARD PICKETT, M. D., LL. D.

Very appreciative notices have appeared in the public press of Dr. Pickett, recently deceased, but a fuller estimate of so distinguished a citizen should be placed on record while his memory is fresh among us. He was the son of Thomas Jefferson Pickett and Margaret Madison (Campbell) Pickett, and was born January 6, 1841, on a farm in the western part of the county. To this, in part, may be traced the great interest and pride he always showed in Mason county and her people.

Dr. Pickett came of a race of people who have taken high rank both in church and State. The Pickett's are of Huguenot derivation. Among them we find the names of Gen. George E. Pickett, the hero of Gettysburg; Col. John T. Pickett, the famous fillibuster; James C. Pickett, a lieutenant and poet, also minister to Ecuador and Peru, and Prof. James D. Pickett, the educator so well known in Kentucky. The Mason county Picketts stand in the forefront of our citizens. Dr. Pickett's grandfather, Col. John Pickett, an early settler of Mason county, was a man of force and character, having served in both branches of the legislature. His father,

Thomas J. Pickett, is well remembered, not only as a successful business man, but as a country gentleman of the old school, well read in belles lettres, and the master of a graceful English style. He, too, represented his county in the legislature. Dr. Pickett's mother was of Scotch derivation, tracing through the McDowells to the Rutherfords, and through the Campbells to the clan Argyle. In Green's "Historic Families of Kentucky," the branches of this large family, in which are so many distinguished men and women, may be found. Mrs. Pickett was descended from Judge Samuel McDowell, who presided over all the early conventions at Danville, Ky., dealing with the momentous questions of the day, the setting up of a new commonwealth of Kentucky. Judge McDowell was the father of the father of Dr. Ephriam McDowell, the pioneer in the operation of ovariectomy in all the world. Mrs. Pickett was the daughter of Rev. John Poage Campbell, the distinguished Presbyterian divine. Dr. E. P. Humphrey says of him: "As a preacher he was distinguished for weight of matter, brilliant diction, the flashing of a deepset, dark blue eye, elegance of style and gracefulness of delivery." He was also a skilled writer on scientific topics.

Dr. Pickett was brought up in the Presbyterian faith, and was fond of showing the power of its Calvinistic principles in shaping so many of the great characters and crises of history.

He took his academic course in the noted school of Rand and Richerson, afterwards spending four years at Centre College, Danville, Ky., from which he graduated in 1860. It was in the palmy days of Dr. Lewis Warner Greene's presidency. Of this great educator and the fine faculty of the college, Dr. Pickett was often heard to speak in terms of high admiration. At college he took high rank both as a classical scholar and a student of science. He was also one of the editors of the college literary paper, the maturity of his style

attracting the attention of Dr. Humphrey and other competent judges. It may be said right here, that Dr. Pickett always kept up his classical studies as an elegant diversion from his professional labors. He was an authority on Horace, having turned some of his best known odes into English verse. He was also an excellent French scholar, perfecting his use of it by two stays of some length in the French capital. This ripening of his scholarship at "old Centre" recognized by conferring upon him, in the year 1900, (entirely unsought,) the degree of LL. D.

So decided was his literary bent, that it was generally supposed he would devote himself, on graduating, to literary research, but he had also a decidedly practical turn which caused him to take up medicine as his profession. For this he prepared himself by full courses, graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, and by surgical service for a time with the Army of the Potomac and in the hospitals of Philadelphia. He did not get fully into practice, however, for a few years, having been induced to take for a time the editorship of the Lexington Observer, and afterwards of the Evansville Courier. He could not, indeed, even after coming into an exacting practice, relinquish his desire to find expression with the pen. He was often found late at night in his library at his reading and his correspondence, both of which ranged over all the departments open to his cultured mind.

He wrote a great deal for the Eagle in the days of T. M. Green's editorship, and was always a welcome contributor to the papers of the city. One of his first contributions of a scholarly character was a monograph on the Mound Builders which at once drew forth the complimentary notice of archaeological societies and students. The position taken in this has been confirmed by the later discoveries and conclusions of antiquarian students. This written essay may be found incorporated in Collins' "History of Kentucky."

His literary reputation, however, will probably rest upon the publication, under the auspices of the Filson Historical Club, of which he was a member, entitled, "The Quest of a Lost Race." It was an answer to Freeman's statement that the Norman is a lost race. Dr. Pickett shows from the names of the Battle Rolls of William, the Conqueror, which have been traced in the greatest achievements of the English and American people, that it is the Norman element which has given chief distinction to the American people, so that it should not be called the Anglo-Saxon race, but the Anglo-Norman.

The ingenious and learned author took special pride in following the Anglo-Norman into Kentucky, where the British element has been least mixed with other races. In the Kentuckian's fearlessness and independence, his spirit of adventure leading even to distinction on the seas, his love of horses and his chivalry to ladies, his fondness for litigation, and his picturesque personality and speech, as well as in the Norman names which still linger among us, he found a striking proof of the enduring leadership of the Norman.

It may well be asked how one, whose mind dwelt so fully with these general questions, could keep up a laborious practice. The question betrays the narrowness of the view we Americans usually take of life. The greatest German and French scholars are often active in governmental service or in professional practice. Disraeli, the man of letters, was England's greatest Chancellor of the Exchequer; Lord Haldane, the greatest authority in England on German Metaphysics, has been surpassed by none as Secretary of War and Lord Chancellor. Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson have both been learned scholars and also intrepid men of action. Dr. Pickett's mind was of this large and inclusive type.

At the time he entered upon medical practice, Maysville had a number of strong physicians, but it was not long before

the wealth of his learning, and his full preparation for practice, called him into their counsel, and eventually to a position second to none among her greatest physicians. Dr. Pickett brought to this sick room all the gifts of his fine mind and his rich nature. His power of diagnosis amounted almost to intuition, but he did not trust to this. Never did a physician more laboriously possess himself of all the facts of a case, or more untiringly deal with it. In extreme cases he became the nurse of the patient, sitting up night and day until danger had passed. It was this devotion to the highest ideals of the profession, sparing not himself so long as a life was in the balance, which has endeared him to so many of our homes. This was true regardless of class or condition. He gave himself to rich and to poor, his charges in all cases being rather below than above the average physician. He was noted for using the simplest remedies, his philosophical mind discerning the value of things overlooked even by many physicians. Experience proved how deeply he saw into the human system. Because of this personal attention and watchfulness, it is probable that few physicians in the State could trace the saving of more lives to their own exertions.

Dr. Pickett took great satisfaction in having introduced into this country the Championniere method of treating fractures, with which he had become directly acquainted in Paris. This method aims to dispense, so far as possible, with rigid apparatus about the broken bones, leaving them to be frequently inspected und massaged, "gently caressing" (as he phrased it) the adjacent parts to keep the repairing forces at work. One who ever saw him thus taking the fractured parts into his own gentle hands and manipulating them, that the function of the parts should be maintained, has in memory a picture not only of Dr. Pickett's greatness as a physician, but of his characteristic qualities as a man. His skill descended into the smallest details, and he found no service troublesome

which could forward the comfort or the recovery of the patient.

Dr. Pickett married in 1873 Miss Abby Gray, daughter of Hamilton Gray, one of the most honored and successful merchants in the history of the city. She was taken from him by death in 1878, leaving two daughters, who are still living; Rosa, wife of Edward Campbell McDowell, now of Hamilton, Ontario, and Abby, wife of George Taylor Barbour, of the Bank of Maysville. The children of these daughters gathered about his feet, made a beautiful picture and added greatly to the pleasures of his declining years.

Dr. Pickett accumulated by his practice a handsome competency, and he lived in one of the most beautiful homes in our city. As a citizen he kept in touch with all important movements in the city. He was in turn city physician, chairman of the board of health, city councilman, and a member for several years of the school board, and afterwards of the advisory committee on the new high school, rendering such service as only one of his own fine education could bring to the public interest. He took an active part in bringing the railroads and the water works to the city. To him, more than to any one man, may be traced the Haywood Hospital, established by Mrs. May V. Wilson, who named him in the conveyance the leading trustee having in charge that great interest. To the confidence reposed in him and his associates, may also be traced all the subsequent gifts to the endowment of that institution.

He also took a leading part as a trustee of the Library, established by the late James Wornald, and embracing the Greenwood Fund.

Dr. Pickett was not only a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, of the Kentucky State Historical Society, of the Virginia Historical Society, of

the American Statistical Association, and of the Filson Historical Club, but also of the Royal Society of Arts, and of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, two of whose meetings, at Newcastle and Oxford, he attended.

Dr. Pickett had not practiced his profession generally for about ten years. He could not, however, altogether escape the appeals of many who came to him for advice. He was a member of the National Board of Surgeons, and of the Local Board of Examiners for Pensions, since its organization in 1884. This service was rendered with painstaking care, and the examiners received many compliments from the government board on their valuable work.

Since the first of June last Dr. Pickett had been confined to his room, and on the 3d of September he breathed his last at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Barbour, whose unremitting attention was a great comfort to him in his last days.

Dr. Pickett was a distinguished looking man. Slight of figure, and gentle in manner, there was nevertheless in his erect pose and his bearing, the mark of distinction which would attract at once a stranger. He was the most genial and courteous of companions, a brilliant conversationalist, readily drawing from his large reading and observation, the master of a quick and felicitous repartee, interested in all about him, and contributing his share to the life and improvement of our city. Maysville never had a citizen who will reflect greater honor upon it, nor one whose personality counted more powerfully in its life.

We lay this simple wreath on his grave in the name of his host of friends and admirers. The service of a great physician can only be repaid with gratitude and love, and these he will have in abundant measure.

JOHN BARBOUR

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